

## BOOK REVIEW

CURCULIONIDAE OF AMERICA NORTH OF MEXICO. A KEY TO THE GENERA. By David G. Kissinger. v, 143 pp., 59 figs. Taxonomic Publications, South Lancaster, Massachusetts. 1964. (Price, \$7.50.)

The purpose of this work is to provide keys to the nearly 400 curculionid genera occurring in North America north of Mexico. The author has admirably fulfilled this purpose.

In this work 42 subfamilies are treated. Keys are provided for the subfamilies, and each subfamily is provided with keys to the genera. No attempt has been made at identifications on the species level. For each subfamily and genus treated there is a general account of the group. The account of each genus includes the author, date, synonyms, principal references to keys to species, the habitat and habits, and the distribution (by states and provinces).

Structural features that are used in identifying genera have been used in the construction of the keys. A section on the taxonomically important adult structures is given but the treatment is not and was not intended to be a complete study of the adult curculionid morphology.

The keys represent an improvement over those of Bradley, *A Manual of the Genera of Beetles of America, North of Mexico*, Ithaca, N. Y. 1930, and Arnett, *The Beetles of the United States (A Manual for Identification)*, Catholic Univ. of America Press, Washington, D. C. 1960. There are a few keys with which the user is apt to have trouble. Difficult groups are still difficult. For example, in the key to the genera of Subfamily No. 1, which contains 44 couplets, all 17 genera from couplet 29 to the end are hard to separate.

The work is not without errors. Most of these should have been corrected in galley proof. An erratum sheet will have to be published but a few of the more obvious are pointed out below. The spelling of the specific name of the cotton boll weevil on p. 55 is *grandis*, not *grandus*; p. 5, *Magdalis*, not *Magdalus*; p. 74, *Perigastes* should be *Perigaster*; p. 130, fig. 30 and p. 37, *Cyrtepistomus* instead of *Cyrtepistomis*. There is a faulty reference on page 67-68; under the generic name *Cryptorhynchus* the author says to consult Sleeper (1955a) for a key to separate the species. That work contains the description of seven new species of weevils in miscellaneous genera but there are no keys to the *Cryptorhynchus*.

Students wishing to pick a group of curculionids for study will find this work most helpful as the author has indicated in many instances which genera are in need of revision and where keys to the species are desired.

The book represents a much needed and valuable contribution to our entomological literature; it will be indispensable to anyone interested in the Curculionidae of America north of Mexico.—ROSE ELLA WARNER, *Ent. Res. Div., A.R.S., U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.*



## LITERATURE NOTICE

DIRECTORY OF ZOOLOGICAL (AND ENTOMOLOGICAL) SPECIMEN COLLECTIONS OF TROPICAL INSTITUTIONS. By United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Paris. 31 pp. 1962. (Price: \$1.00 U.S., 3,50 N.F.)—This is another in the series Humid Tropics Research. More than 40 collections are listed, with short statements on each as to content or specializations, identification, and exchange.